

## **Leesburg Standing Residential Traffic Committee Minutes of Monday, January 31, 2005**

The Leesburg Standing Residential Traffic Committee met on Monday, January 31, 2005, in the Lower Level Conference Room of the Municipal Government Center, 25 West Market Street, Leesburg, Virginia. The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m.

### Members Present

Elizabeth Whiting, Chair  
Vice Chair Sandy Kane  
Councilmember Susan Horne  
Gabe Kelemen

Ann Bollinger  
Terry Elvers  
Brian Rolston

### Town Staff Present

Calvin Grow  
Mark McCartney

### Citizens Present

Connie Fletcher

### Ad Hoc Committee Members Present

Al Lewis, Ann Jones

1. *Minutes:* On **motion** by Sandy Kane, **seconded** by Brian Rolston, the **minutes of the January 3, 2005 meeting were unanimously approved** as presented.
2. *Public Comment:* There was no public comment.
3. *Woodlea Manor, Greenway Farms and Bradfield Drive (Country Club Subdivision) Citizen Ad Hoc Committee:* Ad Hoc Committee Chair Al Lewis, with Ad Hoc Committee member Ann Jones, reported that their committee mapped out areas of concern and designated intersections along Country Club Drive, Meade Drive and Bradfield Drive that seemed to be the areas of highest concern. He said that the traffic studies confirmed these observations. The Ad Hoc Committee plans to present their recommendations to the Committee at the February 28 meeting.
4. *Mid-year Budget Update:* Calvin Grow reported that the Town Council approved \$20,000.00 to extend the Route 15 Bypass fence south from its current terminus to a location next to the culvert.
5. *FY '05 Project Update:* Calvin Grow reported the result of the onsite inspection conducted January 18, 2005. The Committee confirmed that a median feature is not feasible where the turning stripes are marked on North King Street. Staff consensus, supported by the additional Committee members who participated in the site visit, is that the area at the southwest corner of the intersection of Ida Lee Drive and North King Street be improved by a landscaped feature that tightens the radius of the turn south onto North King Street from Ida Lee Drive. The Committee agreed that a public water source, where feasible, should be designed into landscaped features and that local neighborhoods should continue to be recruited to maintain planned features via the Adopt-A-Spot and Adopt-A-Plot programs. The FY '05

budget item will be used to design the feature and a FY '06 budget will (hopefully) fund construction.

6. *FY '06 Budget Recommendations:* Liz Whiting stated her opinion that the South King Street/Fairfax Street landscaped median should be a high priority, noting how attractive the medians are along King Street south of Catoctin Circle; then, when you transition to the Historic District at Fairfax Street, the “greeting” is ugly. Sandy Kane/Connie Fletcher noted that the Town had just signed a contract with Arnett Muldrow Associates to plan the “Crescent District.” The Committee agreed it made sense to await that outcome. Liz Whiting will contact Susan Swift and Betsy Fields and share the Committee’s thinking on this project, as well as offer the preliminary plans already designed. Terry Elvers asked the Committee to back some kind of relief for residents of Linden Hill subdivision to exit onto South King Street, noting that if heading north, they must await traffic on Country Club Drive to trigger the red indication at the traffic signal and the good graces of northbound King Street motorists to allow them entry into the stream of traffic. While noting it was hard to characterize this as a “residential” traffic project, the Committee asked Calvin Grow to report back on what could be done, including installing a “trigger” for Linden Hill Way traffic. On motion by Sandy Kane, seconded by Gabe Kelemen, the Committee unanimously recommended the following budget for FY '06:

- (i) Construct two sets of traffic-calming cushions along Kincaid Boulevard, S.E. in the vicinity of the intersections with Patrice Drive at Randi Drive and Patrice Drive at Tammy Terrace (\$32,000.00);
- (ii) Fund consultant study to design traffic calming improvements in Country Club Estates, Greenway Farms and Woodlea Manor Estates, and install raised crossings on Bradfield Drive and Country Club Drive at the golf cart crossings (\$40,000.00);
- (iii) Construct landscaped entry feature in S.W. quadrant at the intersection of North King Street and Ida Lee Drive (\$80,000.00);
- (iv) Construct Edwards Ferry Road/Plaza Street road “diet” improvements (\$80,000.00)

7. *West Market Street/Memorial Drive:* Connie Fletcher related that it was becoming increasingly difficult for Memorial Drive residents to exit east onto West Market Street or for pedestrians to cross to the south side of West Market Street. Although she isn’t asking for a traffic signal or stop signs at the intersection, the Committee should be aware that the increased activity on the hospital site is drawing cut-through traffic on Cornwall and North streets because the West Market Street/Memorial Drive turn maneuver is so difficult. Also, the hospital’s plans for offices at the site will add significant burdens to

the entire neighborhood travel network. On **motion** by Sandy Kane, **seconded** by Terry Elvers, the Committee **asked that a crosswalk be marked on the east side of the West Market Street/Memorial Drive intersection if feasible**, from FY '05 funds; if handicapped ramp(s) have to be constructed and FY '05 funds are insufficient, the Committee **asked that the project be added to the FY '06 budget request**. (See item #6.)

8. *Safe-T-Ride Figures:* Ridership figures for 2004 were attached to the agenda.
9. *Smart Trailer and selective enforcement reports:* Mark McCartney reported the results of the Smart Trailer usage during December and indicated that the selective enforcement efforts would henceforth concentrate on problems identified during the three preceding months.
10. *Pedestrian crosswalk enforcement at West Market Street at Wirt and Liberty Streets and at Marshall Street at Autumn Willow Way:* Mark McCartney indicated that there was nothing to report. The Committee agreed that new efforts should coincide with the re-emergence of pedestrian traffic volume with the arrival of spring.
11. *Parking Lane installation on Catoctin Circle between Dry Mill Road and South King Street:* Speed studies conducted after marking the parking lanes on Catoctin Circle showed little change. The consensus of the Committee was to await further contact from the neighborhood or school.
12. *Compensation for citizen representatives of Committee:* On motion by Gabe Kelemen, seconded by Brian Rolston, the Committee unanimously recommended no change at present in their (lack of) compensation for service. The Committee's recommendations for future changes to the Residential Task Force Report, already amended by the Town Council in February 2002, may lead to a recommendation of creating a Residential Traffic Commission. The individual committee members, however, prefer at present to serve as uncompensated volunteers.
13. *Lowenbach Ad Hoc Subcommittee update:* Liz Whiting reported that the Ad Hoc Committee report would be presented to the Town Council during their work session February 7, 2005. Because the final Ad Hoc Committee meeting of January 27, 2005 precluded her attendance, Liz Whiting couldn't report the final position on a couple of positions: (i) Shifting Prince Street improvements to the east to preserve two trees. (There seems to be growing acknowledgement that the two large maple trees on the west side of Prince Street are not reasonable candidates for "heritage tree" status so as to justify special protection in the project design.) (ii) Extent of brick sidewalks. (While there was a unanimous vote in support of brick sidewalks throughout the project area, there seemed to be some Ad Hoc Committee members who support the proposal as a matter of design preference, some who harbor the

hope that this will defeat the project and some who back the vote to build a picture of a strong consensus. Much discussion at the last meeting attended by Liz Whiting (prior to the January 27th meeting) focused on how and whether or not to cue the Town Council that the neighborhood wanted brick sidewalks at entrances and internal intersections if the Town wasn't willing to provide brick sidewalks throughout the project area.

14. *Marshall Drive and Autumn Willow Way Update:* Calvin Grow reported that this project could be completed when paving resumes in March or April 2005.
15. *Next meeting date:* February 28, 2005.
16. *Committee member concerns:* (i) Susan Horne reported her concern that press reports indicated that the Board of Supervisors planned to use funds earmarked for Sycolin Road improvements to pave the controversial portion of Mount Gilead Road. Calvin Grow confirmed that there was nothing the Town could do to keep the County from shifting the funds. (ii) Gabe Kelemen asked that the Committee actively pursue the traffic-calming plan update. At Liz Whiting's suggestion, the Committee agreed that one chapter ("Part") of the plan be scheduled for review each meeting and that Committee members come prepared to discuss amendments on that basis. (iii) Terry Elvers raised concerns with the reported proposal in the draft Comprehensive Plan that planned levels of service be permitted to drop from "C" to "D", and that proposed developments be approved that dropped levels of service another benchmark. After ascertaining that only some committee members had received background reports (Traffic and Land Use only) and that the draft text for the updated plan was supposed to be released shortly, the Committee (i) agreed to carry Terry Elver's motion to the next meeting agenda and (ii) asked to be supplied with a complete set of draft text and background reports.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 p.m. The next firm meeting is Monday, February 28, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. Staff is to contact Liz Whiting if anything arises needing Committee consideration in the interim.